



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Garden Design Skills (SCQF level 8)

Unit code: H7B9 35

Superclass: SA

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Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to provide specialist knowledge and skills which will allow learners to design and present a garden in detail to clients and tradesmen.

This Unit is suitable for those who wish to pursue a career in Garden Design or other related occupations within the horticultural industry.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Explain the project management process.
- 2 Design garden features for integration into a garden design.
- 3 Prepare documents for clients and building contractors.

Credit points and level

2 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8)

Recommended entry to the Unit

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the delivering centre, however, it would be beneficial if learners had completed Higher National Units *Garden Design Concepts F1J8 34*, *Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features F1J5 34* and *Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation F1MN 34* or equivalent.

Higher National Unit Specification: General information (cont)

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Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Learners should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Explain the project management process.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Presentation skills
- ◆ Project management
- ◆ Role of the designer
- ◆ Role of the client
- ◆ Role of the contractor
- ◆ On-site operations
- ◆ Health and Safety requirements
- ◆ Planning and building control

Outcome 2

Design garden features for integration into a garden design.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Lighting schemes
- ◆ Drainage schemes
- ◆ Irrigation schemes
- ◆ Decking
- ◆ Retaining structures
- ◆ Paving
- ◆ Timber structures
- ◆ Steps and ramps
- ◆ Relationship between selected features and overall design scheme

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 3

Prepare documents for clients and building contractors.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Detailed specification on the drawings
- ◆ Marking out/Layout drawings
- ◆ Sections
- ◆ Detail drawings
- ◆ Schematics

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

For Outcome 1:

Provide written and/or recorded evidence demonstrating that they can explain:

- ◆ The project management process.
- ◆ The roles of those involved in the design, construction and management of a project.
- ◆ The issues surrounding legislative controls and how they influence the design of a garden.
- ◆ Presentation techniques which can be used for a chosen garden design scheme.

For Outcome 2:

Provide evidence demonstrating that they can:

- ◆ Design a minimum of two features for a selected garden scheme.
- ◆ Produce detailed drawings of the selected features.
- ◆ Present the design features for a selected garden scheme.

For Outcome 3:

Provide evidence demonstrating that they can:

- ◆ Prepare a specification drawing for the two features selected in Outcome 2.
- ◆ Produce a range of Detail Drawings for the two features selected in Outcome 2.

The assessment for **Outcome 2** can be integrated with the assessment for **Outcome 3**.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

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Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit aims to build upon the skills and knowledge gained in the Units *Garden Design Concepts, Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features* and *Landscape Specification and Estimation*. It will provide an opportunity for learners to expand upon their knowledge and skills and explore detailed elements within the garden design process.

The content of this Unit can be delivered flexibly to reflect the interests and approaches at a particular centre.

Outcome 1 should instruct learners on the process of project management and factors involved at each stage including looking at issues such as the management of client relations, sourcing contractors, the tendering process and the legislative issues arising from Planning and Building Control. This Unit will develop knowledge of the process of design, supervision and management of a garden scheme.

Outcome 2 will look at the design and construction of specialist elements or techniques appropriate to garden design schemes.

Outcome 3 will focus on communicating the technical details in Outcomes 1 and 2 in written and drawing format, normally specification drawings and a range of detail drawings.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit could be delivered through lectures, tutorials and practicals. Visiting speakers could be invited to illustrate the alternative viewpoints of those involved in design, implementation and management of garden design projects. Learners could be encouraged to explore the presentation and construction techniques which can be used to enhance the role of the garden designer.

In **Outcome 1** learners could be encouraged to explore presentation issues and techniques through practical exercises.

In **Outcomes 2 and 3** practical exercises and visits to professionals could be used to ensure that learners understand the detailed requirements for design of the given elements and the information that clients and contractors require.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Outcome 1 could be assessed by a series of structured questions to cover the Knowledge and Skills specified and to meet all Evidence Requirements

Outcome 2 could be assessed by a project to cover the Knowledge and Skills specified and to the Evidence Requirements. The project could be a design from a previous Unit which could be used to demonstrate design detailing of garden features. This Outcome could be assessed together with Outcome 3.

Outcome 3 could be assessed by a project to cover the Knowledge and Skills specified and to the Evidence Requirements. If assessed jointly with Outcome 2 the learner could produce the documentation required by the contractor and client for the features selected in Outcome 2.

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit, however there may be opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Numeracy* at SCQF level 5 and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

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This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit is designed to allow you to develop a greater understanding of the roles and relationships of parties involved in the garden design and implementation process. You will learn how to manage clients and contractors and develop an appreciation of the process from their viewpoints. The management of projects can be as crucial as the design and therefore it is crucial to realise the importance of all stages of the process from design to successful completion onsite.

The Unit will provide an opportunity for practical and theory sessions to deepen your understanding of the detailed design of garden features. This will include an appreciation of the role of other professionals in the process. Visits and visits by subject specialists will augment your learning as will practical sessions.

In order to complete this Unit you will be required to achieve a satisfactory level in all pieces of coursework, normally these will be in the form of structured questions and a project including the submission of drawings.

This Unit is suitable for you if you wish to pursue a career in Garden Design or other related Horticulture areas.